



The Amulet



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Chapter 1 by Joshua T

Jokoch ran as fast as he could toward the large mountain towering in front of him. If he looked closely, he would be able to see the tall peak of it flickering. This was because it wasn't all there; it was split between many billions of universes. This was one of the only places where sanctuary could be found for Jokoch. With a beast of obsidian giving chase to him, he would have to cover much land in a very short amount of time to arrive at the peak before he was captured.

However, because of onyx, that wouldn't be too hard.

He dove into the ground as if jumping into a swimming pool. However, instead him crashing into the ground like any other person would, the earth became as if it were liquid; he slipped into the earth and as soon as he was fully submerged, shot off as fast as a torpedo. The mountain, as it always did, made a small traversable path up to the peak, making what could have been a perilous trek a simple hike. However, today he had no time for this; when the path cleared, he simply rocketed along the path like a fish riding a strong current.

There was a small problem though; Jokoch was not the only ones who had such abilities.

Obsidian had power above that of onyx and could easily destroy onyx if it had the chance. The creatures giving chase to Jokoch were very powerful. This was why he was heading towards the mountain; the cave had amethyst, which was obsidian's weakness. If he made it to the cave, he

could possibly fight back. Of course there was his inherited element - rose quartz - but Jokoch thought that healing probably wouldn't be much help, especially against obsidian.

He had almost reached the cave when he felt a force of relentless restraint that rendered him entirely motionless. He attempted to escape from the force, but it only managed

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to put him in an even more uncomfortable situation. The tight grip lifted him out of the ground. The beast was levitating itself in the air; this was probably how he'd managed to catch up with Jokoch so fast. Meaning to incapacitate Jokoch, he psychokinetically pushed Jokoch to the wall of the cave. However, just before he hit the wall, he realized that his inherited element, rose quartz, might turn out to prove helpful after all; obsidian was not particularly powerful over rose quartz. He placed a healing aura around himself - and just in time as well; he slammed into the wall with such force that, if not surrounded with rose quartz's power, all of the bones in his body would have been broken, even with his onyx-fortified body. This surprised the obsidian creature enough that he let Jokoch slip away from his binding. He came to his senses nearly instantaneously and attempted to restrain Jokoch once again, but was just a moment too late; Jokoch's fingertips just barely reached inside the cave.

A river of energy erupted within Jokoch's arm and diffused throughout his body; at times like these, he was glad of his strange ability to absorb other rocks. The monster's attempt to regain control simply dropped off like water from a duck's feather. He then sent a powerful blast of amethyst-powered wind directly towards the beast. It tried to escape, but, unfortunately for the creature, obsidian's is eclipsed by amethyst. After a few moments of attempting to resist the powerful gale, it simply blew away as a leaf in the wind, soon disappearing in the horizon.

Another day's work done, Jokoch thought as he entered the cave.

The cave Jokoch was in looked like it came straight from a horror story. There were bats squealing in the cave that, on occasion, swooped down into Jokoch's face, who was still a bundle of nerves after the recent battle. There was a stagnant stench which never seemed to lift, and you could hear a quiet dripping sound coming from the stalactites. A pool off to Jokoch's right had water so murky that you couldn't even see the bottom. Once again, he prepared to dive. Taking a huge breath, he leapt into the putrid pool (murky vat) of water.

The moment he entered the water, he was transported into an entirely different cave. Well, "cave" doesn't really define it well, unless you define cave as "able to fit an entire castle". It had beautiful amethyst-coated walls, all in front of a layer of night-black onyx. A chandelier hung from the ceiling in the middle of the cave (which was made from amethyst) scattered light throughout the entire cavern, giving the entire place a kind of purplish hue. There was a

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Jokoch turned around to find Chizooky in her usual amethyst-colored cloak, a slight smirk on her face.

"It took you long enough," she said with a sigh.

"Hey! I had to take care of one of those idiot obsidian monsters. They were getting really annoying!" he responded.

"Creatures," she corrected, throwing in another sigh, this one with some exasperation, "and they're not idiots. I've been waiting since forever. There's something wrong with the universes. Something horribly wrong." Her smirk turned into a worried frown.

Jokoch immediately sobered up and asked, "What is the problem?"

"I expect you would be familiar with the Courtyard."

Jokoch replied, "Of course I'm familiar with it! It's one of the few places that exists in all universes! What about it?"

Chizooky sighed at him for answering the rhetorical question. "Then you may have stumbled across the Artifact."

Jokoch began to wonder where she was going with this. "Yes, I have... It's also known as the Shapeshifter, because it always takes the form of one of the key parts of the universe! You know, like the Elder Wand and Harry Potter."

She sighed again, for he had answered another rhetorical question. "Yes, well," she paused to think of the best way to put it, "It's been taken."

Chapter 2 by Phantim



Several days earlier a slender female figure crouched over the remains of a stone giant, now just boulders and rock shards. She held up a small piece looking intently at the sword marks etched on it.

After a moment she stood up and dropped the rock. She stood stark naked now on the small bridge leading into the sanctuary, she knew she would not find the amulet within. Still she walked slowly into the building and looked at the now empty pedestal.

"So this is why I have been awakened," she spoke to herself.

A cold wind ripped through the now empty sanctuary drawing her attention to her naked form.

At that won't do," she mumbled.

She looked around the room before she noticed the chest. She knelt down and opened it. Within was a set of armor and a sword. She lifted the chest piece up and examined it, finding it acceptable.

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for her. She placed her hands on it and mumbled a quiet spell, her skin tingled as the armor slithered and shrank, coming to a perfect fit on her body.

"Now... time to warn the others... then find out where the amulet has gone off to." She said decidedly.

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